

B<sup>1</sup> cont.  
wherein said gel-swella-ble portion has a density of less than 0.90 g/cc and said outer layer has a density of at least 0.90 g/cc.

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2. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion is a continuous layer surrounding said at least one optical fiber.

3. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion has an uneven thickness.

B<sup>2</sup>  
4. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion has a smooth surface.

5. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion has at least one groove in a surface of said at least one gel-swella-ble portion.

6. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion is made from at least one longitudinally running strip.

7. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, further comprising a second gel-swella-ble portion positioned between said gel-swella-ble portion and said at least one optical fiber.

8. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swallowable portion has a corrugated surface which is adjacent to said gel.

9. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein at least one gel-swallowable portion contacts said inner surface of said outer layer.

B2  
cont. 10. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swallowable portion is one of a copolymer or terpolymer of polyethelene.

11. (Re-Add) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said gel-swallowable portion swells more than 10% at 85°C.

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13. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein said at least one gel-swallowable portion is a polyolefin swallowable material.

B3 14. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 1, wherein the material of said at least one gel-swallowable portion is softer than the material of said outer layer.

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B4 15. (Twice Amended) A fiber optic cable, comprising:  
an outer layer;

at least one optical fiber disposed inside said outer layer;

a gel-swellaable portion contacting an outer surface of said optical fiber; and

a water resistant gel positioned adjacent to said gel-swellaable portion;

wherein said gel swellaable portion absorbs at least some of a said gel, and wherein said gel-swellaable portion swells more than 10% at 85°C.

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16. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swellaable portion is a continuous layer surrounding said at least one optical fiber.

17. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swellaable portion has an uneven thickness.

18. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swellaable portion has a smooth surface.

19. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swellaable portion has at least one groove in a surface of said gel-swellaable portion.

20. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swellaable portion is made from at least one longitudinally running strip.

21. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, further comprising a second gel-swella-ble portion positioned between said gel-swella-ble portion and said outer jacket.

B5 cont 22. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swella-ble portion has a corrugated surface which is adjacent to said gel.

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27. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said gel-swella-ble portion is a polyolefin swella-ble material.

B6 28. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein the material of said gel-swella-ble portion is softer than the material of said outer layer.

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29. (Twice Amended) A fiber optic cable, comprising:

an outer layer;

at least one optical fiber;

a water resistant gel disposed between said at least one optical fiber and said outer layer;

and

B7 at least one gel-swella-ble portion proximate to one of an inner surface of said outer layer and an outer surface of said optical fiber;

wherein said gel-swella-ble portion is made from a material softer than said one of said inner surface and said outer surface to which said gel-swella-ble portion is adhered to.

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30. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swappable portion is a continuous layer.

31. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swappable portion has an uneven thickness.

32. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swappable portion has a smooth surface.

33. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swappable portion has a groove in a surface of said at least one gel-swappable portion.

34. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swappable portion is made from at least one longitudinally running strip.

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35. The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, further comprising a second gel-swappable portion positioned between said at least one gel-swappable portion and the other of said outer surface and said inner surface.

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36. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion has a density less than 0.90 g/cc.

B9

37. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion is one of a copolymer or terpolymer of polyethelene.

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40. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion is a polyolefin swella-ble material.

B10

41. (Amended) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion has a corrugated surface.

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**The following new Claims are to be added:**

42. (New) The fiber optic cable according to claim 15, wherein said optical fiber is part of an optical fiber ribbon.

B11

43. (New) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-swella-ble portion swells more than 10% at 85°C.

44. (New) The fiber optic cable according to claim 29, wherein said at least one gel-

*Bid* swellable portion contacts said one of an inner surface of said outer layer and an outer surface of  
*cont.* said optical fiber.

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